

I urge the Commission to REJECT RM-10781 in its entirety.

A 5-wpm Morse code proficiency requirement is the equivalent of merely memorizing the sounds of the characters. Until you memorize the characters necessary for basic communication it will serve no purpose to get on the air and make beeps.

The Petitioner further proposes voice privileges on HF without requiring testing for Morse proficiency. The ability to send and receive Morse code is a skill that allows amateur radio operators to get a message across when all else fails. Using a Morse proficiency requirement as an inducement to upgrade for voice privileges encourages operator skill.

An excellent compromise Petition has been submitted to the Commission by FISTS CW Club. No Rule Making number has been issued as of this date.